Membership – Chapter #32

At the June 2000 meeting the directors picked up their flares, vacation guides, summer newsletters, and the Chamber of Commerce and the Silver Lake Institute fliers. The sale price for the flares was $1.50. The SLA thanked the Benedict Family for kindly agreeing to store the flares once again. Membership dues were still $5. Rich Eliasz thanked all who had contributed to the newsletter which featured items on meetings, the Watershed Commission, the Homeowners of Distinction Award, taxes, harvesting, and returned mail.

There were 57 members present at the July 2000 annual meeting. The reading of last year's minutes were waived (copies were distributed) in light of the length of the agenda. Because of the treasury being so low a discussion pursued on raising the cost of dues and flares. The active/individual/supportive dues would be increased from $5 to $10; Business dues would go up from $25 to $30. Sustaining level would remain at $100. The rates would be effective for the 2001 membership drive. A motion was made to raise the dues, seconded, and passed. Comments were made on the impact of increasing dues to $10. Some felt that many in their tracts would not pay. These issues would be discussed at the annual meeting: 1) list what the SLA did and the cost of signs, etc., 2) possibly accept $5 for half year members, and leave the dues at $10.

Directors were asked to convert all cash collected to checks, mail them or drop them off to Mary Gillett so that she could update the records in the quietude of her home.

At the pre-meeting session before the July 2003 Annual meeting, the SLA board members present approved the minutes and the treasury report from June. It was than reported that all but Austin/Shearman Tract and the YMCA Tract turned in their dues, flare money, and address updates. Tucker Tract did not have a director and did not receive membership materials. In turn, nothing was submitted from that tract.

Lorraine distributed the address lists with attached mail-in updates to the directors. One list should be turned in with "Paid" marked for the people who turned in their dues to the directors. The M-01, 02 notations meant the person was a paid member for 2001 & 2002. The SLA fiscal year ran from July 2002 through July 2003. The directors were asked to keep all other homemade lists.

There was still a membership list that was not turned in by Tucker Tract's director Francis Foulkrod. The YMCA Tract turned in a hand written list. It was asked to turn in any funds collected and the computer lists ASAP. This brought up the topic of flare inventory. Should the SLA want a more regimented form for flare pickups and returns by tract directors? This led to the discussion of all income and outflow. The Executive Committee would meet over the winter to develop a better way to track all expenses and revenues; i.e., develop a report based on checking account activities. This would be needed once the SLA would obtain the NYS tax-exempt certification and get regular audits, which the SLA should have been doing for years.

It was motioned by Betty Nasca and seconded by Ruth Lavin to not have pre-paid dues through the winter newsletter. Collection of the dues should only be done by the tract directors.